



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Muscular dystrophy is not a single disease or disorder that affects everyone in the same way, but rather an umbrella term that encompasses more than 52 types of muscular and neuromuscular diseases that vary in severity; and
- WHEREAS: All muscular dystrophies result in progressive muscle weakness, ranging from mild muscle weakness to complete paralysis of all voluntary muscles, including the muscles used for breathing and swallowing; and
- WHEREAS: More than one million individuals in the U.S. are affected by one of the forms of muscular dystrophy. Muscular dystrophy diseases can affect anyone, regardless of race, sex, age, ethnicity, or background; and
- WHEREAS: Research has recently yielded new medications to treat four types of muscular diseases; and
- WHEREAS: It is essential to further increase public awareness of muscular dystrophy in order to facilitate the discovery of new treatments and cures. Additional funding is also needed to better support and serve the families of individuals affected by neuromuscular diseases; and
- WHEREAS: Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month and Light it up Green for MD Month provide unique opportunities to educate the public on muscular dystrophy and other issues affecting the muscular dystrophy community; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 2018 as MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and join in recognizing LIGHT IT UP GREEN FOR MD MONTH.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF